IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Supply News

Environmental Services

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Reminder: Fax Sheets need a Name!

Because there is now one fax machine for the entire floor (and not just the water supply group), please make sure you include the name of the person to whom you're sending the fax! Otherwise, it can slow down delivery.

Reminder: Asbestos Sampling

For those systems that are conducting asbestos sampling, the requirement is to collect the sample at a tap after the longest length of AC pipe. Except in rare instances, the pipe is typically found in the distribution system. Do not collect the sample from a hydrant; it should be collected from an inside drinking water faucet.

The lab will provide sampling instructions, but in general it's the cold water tap, aerator removed, run water for a few minutes until the temperature changes, then collect sample. The analytical procedure involves the use of an electron microscope and opening/flushing the hydrant can stir up enough small particulate to interfere with the test.

The operation permit will indicate if asbestos testing is required for the community and non-transient non-community systems; it is not required at any transient non-community systems.

WS Rules Package Presented at December EPC Meeting

The Water Supply Rules package will be presented to the Environmental Protection Commission at their December 19th meeting, with the request to proceed with rulemaking.

The package includes the Groundwater Rule, the Lead and Copper Rule Short-term Revisions, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, many analytical methods, and changes to existing rules. The entire package, including the Notice of Intended Action and the rule changes, will be available at this website in the near future. Watch the listserv for further information.

Legionella: Risks Grow for Deadliest U.S. Drinking Water Hazard

From Circle of Blue WaterNews, 11/15/2017

This is an interesting article that summarizes much of the current knowledge and management of *Legionella*, which are bacteria that are ubiquitous in the environment and can thrive in water systems. It does particularly well in warm water plumbing and is an inhalation risk to people rather than the more typical ingestion risk. It causes a type of pneumonia and is a particular risk to immune-compromised people and older people. Read the full article.

GAO Climate Change Study Recommends Federal Actions to Reduce Potential Economic Impacts

From ASDWA Weekly Update, November 10, 2017

"The U.S. General Accountability Office (GAO) has published a report on the findings of its study entitled, "Climate Change: Information on Potential Economic Effects Could Help Guide Federal Efforts to Reduce Fiscal Exposure." The GAO report examines: methods used to estimate the potential economic effects of climate change in the US; what is known about these effects; and the extent to which information about these effects could inform efforts to manage climate risks across the federal government.

The GAO study included reviews of other studies, interviews with experts, and a comparison of federal efforts to manage climate risks with leading practices for risk management and economic analysis. EPA's "Climate Change Impacts and Risks Analysis" project that looks at six sectors: health, infrastructure (including water infrastructure), electricity, water resources (and supply), agriculture and forestry, and ecosystems, was one of two national studies used for the report.

Based on the study findings, GAO recommends that the appropriate entities within the Executive Office of the President (EOP), including the Office of Science and Technology Policy, use information on potential economic effects to help identify significant climate risks and craft appropriate federal responses. To view the report, visit the GAO website."

Webinar Series on Condition Assessment & Pipe Failure Prediction Project: Corrosion and Failure Prediction

From Water Research Foundation, 11/16/2017

The Water Research Foundation, WRF, is holding a series of three webinars over the next three months presenting the results of a project (#4326) entitled “Advanced Condition Assessment and Failure Prediction Technologies for Optimal Management of Critical Water Supply Pipes.” The 1.5 hour webinars are free and open to the public, and registration is required.

First webinar: Thursday, November 30th, 2:00 p.m. CST

Registration: **Register Online**

Topic: “This webcast will re-examine potential influencing factors by using data obtained from some 30 pipes exhumed in the Sydney (Australia) and Newcastle region and a model for the development of the corrosion penetration as a function of time developed. … The second part of the webcast will focus on the failure mechanisms of pipe barrel of large diameter cast iron pipes subject to traffic loads and water pressures.”

Second webinar: Tuesday, December 5th, 2:00 p.m. CST

Registration: **Register Online**

Topic: “This webcast will convey the research work carried out on the suitability of a selection of direct Condition Assessment (CA) techniques in failure prediction of critical cast iron (CI) mains. … The second part of the webcast will focus on the quantitative assessment of failure of corroded cast iron pipes.”

Third webinar: Thursday, January 11, 2018, 2:00 p.m. CST

Registration: **Register Online**

Topic: “Sydney Water has continuously implemented research outcomes from this project to defer capital expenditure by $10 million and better target their renewal program, which has reduced their yearly critical water main renewal costs from $50 million to $30 million. This webcast will show how Sydney Water has already implemented and will continue to implement the outcomes to achieve improved customer satisfaction and targeted renewal. This includes an operationalization project to validate and implement the outcomes.”

Summer and Early Fall Weather Review

From the National Weather Service in Des Moines' Fall Weather Whisper

“Temperatures during the summer to early fall where warmer than normal for much of the time. June into much of July was mostly above normal with a few periods of hot weather. In particular, temperatures around the 20th of July saw readings reach 100 degrees in a few locations including Ottumwa and Des Moines. However, the heat broke by late July with readings much below normal throughout the state during the month August. The cool readings in August were enough to cancel out the heat of June and July producing a near normal temperature for the summer season (June-August). September saw a return to above normal readings statewide with these warmer readings continuing into October.

It was feast or famine with rainfall across the state this past summer with some locations receiving adequate precipitation while other saw record low values. Locations primarily across northern Iowa saw periodic rainfall with a few heavy rainfall events in June. However, farther south, rainfall became much more spotty and light with large swaths of central and southern Iowa having rainfall deficits of 6 to 10 inches by late August. This produced severe to extreme drought conditions in south central to southeast Iowa by mid to late summer and ruined crops in some instances. There was some relief by later September into October as rainfall returned across much of the state, although much too late to help crop that had already matured.”

See the article on page 9 for the state maps and statistics from 145 years of records.